

Ms. Nicholson served as Vice President and Assistant General Counsel at The Chase Manhattan Bank. In 2003, as an Executive on Loan from JPMorgan, she began working with Bedford Stuyvesant Restoration Corporation (BSRC) in Brooklyn to restructure and reposition the corporation's anchor commercial real estate and public housing assets. She subsequently served in the position of Executive Vice President and General Counsel at Bedford Stuyvesant Restoration Corporation. In 2006, Ms. Nicholson returned to Wall Street practice and corporate finance as a senior attorney in the financial products group at Clifford Chance, the leading international finance law firm.

On October 1, 2010, Ms. Nicholson launched her private practice, as principal of Yolande I. Nicholson P.C., specializing in foreclosure prevention, litigation and defense. Ms. Nicholson is the author of a White Paper: "Proposal to Appropriate Funding Available under the Emergency Economic Stabilization Act ("EESA") in Keeping with The Troubled Asset Relief Program ("TARP") to Stabilize Hardest-Hit Communities, Support Selected Homeowner Families and Achieve Quantifiable Returns on Investment for Taxpayers and Main Street Communities" (copyright July 2010). With the White Paper, she lends her knowledge and voice to the proposals aimed at precluding foreclosure sales against homeowners who are hardest hit by high unemployment, predatory lending and mortgage fraud.

Ms. Nicholson was born in Grenada, W.I., into an extended family of ever-aspiring parents, grandparents, aunts and uncles that included notable school principals, teachers, nurses, musicians and entrepreneurs. She credits her father for teaching her and her siblings the value of community activism; her mother for teaching them the value of community service; and both for serving as daily examples of grace and dignity. She aims to continue applying her law license, experience and practice in a manner that is responsible and thoughtful when delivering advice and representation to clients.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join me in recognizing Yolande Nicholson.

TRIBUTE TO CHRISTOPHER CALOMIRIS

HON. ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON

OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 16, 2011

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to ask the House of Representatives to join me in honoring the life of Christopher Calomiris, who is fondly remembered by the residents of the District of Columbia and this region for a landmark business, Calomiris Fruits & Vegetables at the Eastern Market—a family owned and operated business for 62 years.

As the child of Greek immigrants, Christopher grew up on Capitol Hill and was groomed in his father's D.C. produce business, which was located in several markets before settling at Eastern Market. With Christopher Calomiris' gentle and dependable guidance, Calomiris Fruits & Vegetables thrived and continues to offer their signature friendly, high-quality customer service with the leadership of Christopher's wife, Maria, and the

Calomiris children, Tom, Leon, and Joy, all of whom helped in this classic generational business.

Christopher Calomiris' battle with cancer over the last several years did not prevent him from working on weekends to continue to support the family business. The business that Christopher Calomiris built represents the best tradition of family-centered, American-made business.

In recognizing his lifetime of hard and productive work and service to the community, I ask the House to join me in honoring the life and legacy of Christopher Calomiris of Calomiris Fruits & Vegetables in Washington, DC.

CONGRATULATING SKYLINE HIGH SCHOOL ON ITS 40TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON

OF TEXAS
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 16, 2011

Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commend Skyline High School for 40 years of outstanding service to the Dallas community. Skyline first opened on March 1st, 1971 as our nation's first magnet school. Since then, thousands of students have graced the halls of Skyline, and many have gone on to make immense contributions to the Dallas Metroplex.

Skyline's diverse student body has excelled academically with students earning nearly \$25 million in scholarships last year. Under the leadership of Principal Harold Wright, Skyline earned a "higher performing school" rating from the National Center for Education Accountability. The motto of "Unity in Effort...Pride in Result" exemplifies the drive and achievement of Skyline's students, teachers and administrators.

Skyline has had many illustrious alumni, including: Dallas City Counsel Member, Pauline Medrano; Olympian, Michael Johnson; and Bryan Trubey, principle designer and architect of the new Dallas Cowboys stadium. These individuals continue to utilize their education at Skyline to give back to the community.

Skyline High School was the first of many outstanding magnet schools in the Dallas area, and helped revolutionize the way we approach education. They have shown with the proper resources and motivation students can and will succeed. I am proud to represent Skyline High School, and look forward to its success in the years ahead.

HONORING FIREFIGHTER HOWARD CARPENTER

HON. NAN A.S. HAYWORTH

OF NEW YORK
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 16, 2011

Ms. HAYWORTH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Firefighter Howard Carpenter of Kent, New York for his steadfast commitment and dedication to our community as a forty-year active member of the Kent Volunteer Fire Department. Firefighter Carpenter is a founding member of the Kent Fire Department and

has remained active for the entirety of its existence. Firefighters like Mr. Carpenter have a crucial role in protecting our homes and families. It is because of committed volunteer firefighters like Mr. Carpenter that our communities have active emergency responders that come to our rescue in our times of need. Mr. Carpenter has a longstanding history of commitment to his community and his fellow firefighters. Mr. Speaker, it is an honor to recognize Firefighter Howard Carpenter for his 40 years of outstanding fire service.

A TRIBUTE TO SHEILA A. DURANT

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 16, 2011

Mr. TOWNS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the achievements of Sheila A. Durant.

Early on, Sheila Durant discovered her life's passion: educating children. She carried this passion for over 30 years and continues to do so. Sheila was born and raised in New York City, as one of five children. At an early age, her parents instilled the value of discipline, determination, and having a dream. Sheila knew her calling was to be an educator. Sheila's own education began in the New York City's public school system, a diverse and multicultural learning environment. She went on to enter the CUNY system and earned a Master's degree in special education from Hunter College. Sheila later received an Administrative Diploma in School Administration from the City College of New York.

When Sheila Durant became Assistant Principal at P.S. 69, in 2003, the State of New York designated the school, "a School in Need of Improvement." Fortunately, she worked with a principal who was an outstanding educational leader, mentor and collaborative partner. Together, they sought to build a "learning" community, dedicated to a climate of open communication, sharing, collaboration, and respect. They began reform at P.S. 69 by implementing conflict resolution platforms for teachers, students, and parents. The school is now constantly improving. Since 2003, Advocates for Children recognized P.S. 69 as both a school of choice and one of the "top 100 schools" in New York City. Today, Sheila is the Principal of P.S. 69. Her journey from Assistant Principal to Principal gave her invaluable insight into making P.S. 69 a successful child-centered educational environment.

Growing as a leader and a continual learner, Ms. Durant is involved in a number of other organizations. She is a member of the Greater Central Baptist Church, New York Academy of Public Education, New York Elementary School Principal Association, Schools That Can, Harvard's Wide World, CEI-PEA, North American Reggio Emilia Alliance, and Association for Supervision and Curriculum Development. She is also the Executive Board member for Council School Consortium and serves as a board member of 500 men.

A guiding principle influenced Sheila's career: "Good teachers move mountains for their students, great teachers show their students how to move mountains for themselves." Sheila's goal is to prepare her students with

the skill and desire to achieve their dreams. Sheila welcomes parents as collaborative partners seeking to educate their children's young minds and hearts. Together with her dedicated staff, she will continue to strive to prepare all students for college readiness, as digital learners, to compete in a global society.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join me in recognizing Sheila A. Durant.

BOB BALGENORTH, STATE BUILDING & CONSTRUCTION TRADES COUNCIL OF CALIFORNIA SPIRIT OF THE YEAR AWARD

HON. BOB FILNER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 16, 2011

Mr. FILNER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a very dedicated, committed leader of the labor movement in our state who deserves to be recognized for his many achievements and contributions to organized labor.

Since being awarded the title of "Apprentice of the Year" by the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers Local 441 in 1969, Bob Balgenorth has dedicated his life to protecting the rights of workers in California's construction industry.

After being elected business manager/financial secretary of his local union and head of the Orange County Building Trades Council, Balgenorth has spent the past 18 years as president of the State Building & Construction Trades Council of California, which represents the 186 private-sector building trades local unions and regional councils that represent 350,000 men and women employed in the state's construction industry.

As president of the council, President Balgenorth has helped forge a partnership between two historically opposed movements: the construction industry and environmentalists. While advocating on behalf of construction workers throughout the state, he's also served on the boards of environmental organizations such as the California Apollo Alliance, California Unions for Reliable Energy, the California League of Conservation Voters, and the California Foundation on the Environment and the Economy.

With leaders such as President Balgenorth pressing to develop relationships with non-traditional allies, the Labor Movement is positioned to build a broad coalition of support for workers rights.

It gives me a great honor Mr. Speaker, because of President Balgenorth's career-long commitment to building solidarity between interests which have traditionally been opposed, I join with the Executive Board of the San Diego-Imperial Counties Labor Council in honoring him with the 2010-2011, "Spirit of Solidarity Award."

TRIBUTE TO BERT RANDOLPH SUGAR

HON. ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON

OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 16, 2011

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to ask the House of Representatives to join me

in honoring Bert Randolph Sugar for his contributions to the boxing profession, as well as for his support of youth in the District of Columbia at Kids In Trouble, Inc. By serving as a member on the Board of Directors of Kids In Trouble, Inc., Mr. Sugar, a native Washingtonian, a graduate of District of Columbia Public Schools, and a boxing historian, has provided our youth with special inspiration by his achievements. His induction into the International Boxing Hall of Fame in 2005 speaks to his special talents, and makes all D.C. residents, particularly our children at Kids In Trouble, Inc., proud.

Throughout his career, Bert Randolph Sugar has honed his skills as a boxing analyst, making frequent appearances on HBO's pay-per-view boxing broadcasts and ESPN. He has published dozens of books and articles, and has served as an editor of *Boxing Illustrated* and of *Ring Magazine*.

Over the years, Kids In Trouble, Inc. has grown to serve thousands of D.C. youth, especially in the Brightwood neighborhood in Northwest D.C. Bert Randolph Sugar has contributed to our youth at Kids In Trouble, Inc. over several decades, and was honored with the Kids In Trouble, Inc. 2005 Lifetime Achievement Award at the 40th Anniversary Toy Drive for needy children in D.C.

I applaud the contributions Bert Randolph Sugar has made to Kids In Trouble, Inc. to help improve the lives of minority and under-represented youth residing in the District of Columbia. Mr. Speaker, I ask the House of Representatives to join me in honoring Bert Randolph Sugar for his contributions to Kids In Trouble, Inc., his commitment to youth in the District of Columbia, and particularly for a lifetime of achievements.

A TRIBUTE TO SALEMA DAWSON-MARBURY

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 16, 2011

Mr. TOWNS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the achievements of Salema Dawson-Marbury.

Salema grew up in the Hollis neighborhood of Queens, New York. She attended Jamaica High School and went on to attain several educational degrees: a Bachelor of Science degree in Applied Mathematics, from Stony Brook University; a Master of Science degree in Secondary School Math Education, from Lehman College; and a Master of Arts degree in Educational Administration, from City College. Salema is married to Done E. Marbury, Jr.; has two step-sons, Duwan A. Marbury and Done E. Marbury, III; and a step-grandson, O'mari M. Marbury.

Salema is the Principal of the P.S. 329 in Coney Island, Brooklyn. She began her educational career in 1988, as an intermediate school teacher at two schools: I.S. 1116, in the South Bronx; and the Mark Twain Intermediate School for the Gifted and Talented, in Coney Island, Brooklyn. Although her first passion is teaching math, she became known for developing programs to improve student self-esteem, academic prowess and leadership.

Early in her career, Salema realized that most children dream of becoming rich and fa-

mous in the same manner as their favorite sports, television and movie stars. She knew this dream would not be a reality for most students. Salema felt that what children really desired was acknowledgement for their accomplishments and the opportunity to achieve economic power in the process. She became determined to provide students with the direction they needed to achieve recognition and economic success. Salema began her tenure at P.S. 329 in 1995, as a teacher in charge of attendance improvement. She was later appointed to Assistant Principal in 1998 and, in 2008, she became the Principal. She is heavily involved in the school community. She established several of the schools seminal programs, including the school's Young Entrepreneurship Program and the school's Performing Arts Program. She also writes, co-produces and co-directs the school's annual drama and dance productions.

Salema believes that all children possess a unique talent. She encourages her students to, "never surrender their dreams," and strives to ensure they acquire the needed confidence for achieving their maximum potential. Salema is proud of her and her staff's work. Today, P.S. 139 is commonly referred to as, "Coney Islands Best Kept Secret."

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join me in recognizing Salema Dawson-Marbury.

THE TAX FREE TIPS ACT

HON. RON PAUL

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 16, 2011

Mr. PAUL. Mr. Speaker, I rise to help millions of working Americans by introducing the Tax Free Tip Act. As the title suggests, this legislation exempts tips from federal income and payroll taxes. Tips often compose a substantial portion of the earnings of waiters, waitresses, and other service-sector employees. However, unlike regular wages, a service-sector employee usually has no guarantee of, or legal right to, a tip. Instead, the amount of a tip usually depends on how well an employee satisfies a client. Since the amount of taxes one pays increases along with the size of the tip, taxing tips punishes workers for doing a superior job!

Many service-sector employers are young people trying to make money to pay for their education, or single parents struggling to provide for their children. Oftentimes, these workers work two jobs in hopes of making a better life for themselves and their families. The Tax Free Tips Act gives these hard-working Americans an immediate pay raise. People may use this pay raise to devote more resources to their children's, or their own, education, or to save for a home, retirement, or to start their own businesses.

Helping Americans improve themselves by reducing their taxes will make our country stronger. I therefore hope all my colleagues will join me in cosponsoring the Tax Free Tips Act.